

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SY-05 AID-05 IGA-02 /031 W

----- 049434

R 041325Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9854

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE YAOUNDE 3774

DEPT FOR AF/EX, AS/SY/SAS; AID/W FOR ROBERT PARKET, D/AG/IIS,
S THORNBURG, SER/MO; KINSHASA FOR RSO, INSPECTORS MINOR AND
MCCLURE, RABAT FOR MCGEE, IIC/IIS, ABIDJAN FOR WILLIAM LORIS,
REDSO/WA

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE LOCAL EMPLOYEE DIVERSION OF USG PROPERTY

REF: (A) 1 OCT TELCON AF/EX (B) STATE 24006 (C) YAOUNDE 3628

(D) KINSHASA 7524

1. INSPECTORS MINOR AND MCCLURE ARRIVED SEPTEMBER 30 TO JOIN
RSO SARGENT (ARRIVED 25TH) AND AG/IIS FINGERHUT (ARRIVED 22ND)
IN ATTEMPTING RESOLVE CURRENT SITUATION AND ESTABLISH ADEQUATE
CONTROLS FOR PROPERTY INVENTORIES.

2. RSO, WORKING IN CONJUNCTION AND COOPERATION LOCAL POLICE,
CONDUCTED INTENSIVE INVESTIGATION FROM SEPTEMBER 26 TO
OCTOBER 2. WHILE A NUMBER OF LEADS WERE DEVELOPED, IT
BECAME INCREASINGLY CLEAR THAT EVIDENCE LARGELY CIRCUMSTANTIAL
AND DOUBTFUL IF SUFFICIENT PROOF COULD BE OBTAINED LEAD TO
DISMISSAL FOR CAUSE OR EVEN SUSTAIN APPEAL FROM SUSPENSION AND
EXCLUSION FROM OFFICIAL PREMISES (3 FAM 792 AND 3). POLICE
ALSO INDICATED THEY WOULD NOT INDICT TCN AND BECAUSE OF
EMBASSY DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY WOULD NOT WISH US PRESS CHARGES

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OR MAKE COURT APPEARANCE. THEREFORE, UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES, IT
APPEARED BEST POSSIBI COURSE WAS TO ENCOURAGE SUSPECTED TCN TO

RESIGN. AFTER INTENSE NEGOTIATIONS LASTING BETTER PART OF DAY, TCN FINALLY RESIGNED. HE ADMITTED NO GUILT, CLAIMED HE VICTIM OF "COUP" ORGANIZED BY SENIOR LOCAL EMPLOYEE WHO HAD BEEN OUT GET HIM FOR OVER A YEAR AND SAID HE TAKING THIS STEP BECAUSE OF FAMILY.

3. TCN CLAIMS HE ANXIOUS LEAVE COUNTRY. HE HAS BEEN GIVEN THREE WEEKS WIND UP PERSONAL AFFAIRS (HE WILL BE PERMITTED EMBASSY PREMISES ONLY UNDER ESCORT) AND POLICE HAVE INDICATED HE WILL BE GIVEN EXIT PERMIT AT TIME OF DEPARTURE.

WHILE THERE SOME QUESTION DURING TELCON WHETHER TCN ACTUALLY TCN OR LOCAL EMPLOYEE, EMBASSY OF OPINION, ON BASIS OF OUR HAVING OFFERED HIM EMPLOYMENT WHILE HE IN CONAKRY AND PAID HIS FARE TO CAMEROON, THAT HE HIRED AND REMAINED TCN DURING HIS EMBASSY EMPLOYMENT. EMBASSY THEREFORE BELIEVES IT OBLIGATED PAY REPATRIATION EXPENSES.

4. POLICE BELIEVE TCN PRINCIPAL ORGANIZER OF ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED DIVERSION USG PROPERTY AND CAMEROONIAN EMPLOYEES MERELY GOING ALONG IN ORDER GET ALONG TCN SUPERVISOR. THEY EXPECTED FURNISH WRITTEN REPORT AND THOSE IMPLICATED WILL BE GIVEN LETTERS REPRIMAND AND DENIAL ANNUAL IN-STEP PAY INCREASES UNLESS EVIDENCE DAMAGING ENOUGH ENCOURAGE THEIR RESIGNATION. EMPLOYEES COOPERATING WITH INVESTIGATION WILL EITHER BE PROMOTED OR GIVEN MERITORIOUS INCREASES.

5. COMMENT: CONSENSUS OF ALL CONCERNED WAS THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE GAIN ENOUGH PROOF SUSTAIN SEPARATION FOR CAUSE. SERVICES AMERICAN PROPERTY MANAGEMENT EXPERT FOR THREE TO SIX MONTHS WOULD BE REQUIRED, WITH ONLY FAIR CHANCE THAT ENOUGH RECONSTRUCTION OF RECORDS COULD BE MADE IN ORDER SUSTAIN SEPARATION FOR CAUSE. THEREFORE, ABOVE ACTION TAKEN IN ORDER QUICKLY RESOLVE SITUATION AND PROCEED ESTABLISHING MORE ADEQUATE FUTURE SYSTEM.

6. ALL INDIVIDUALS LISTED PARA 1 HAVE CONCURRED IN THIS MESSAGE. SEPARATE REPORTS WILL BE FILED BY INSPECTORS, RSO AND AG/IIS. EMBASSY WISHES EXPRESS APPRECIATION TO
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DEPARTMENT AND ALL TDY PERSONNEL FOR SUPPORT IN RESOLVING THIS MATTER. GSO INSTTRUCTED IMPLEMENTATION PROPER MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING. RESIDENT AMERICAN BEING HIRED AND HOPE OBTAIN SERVICES ANOTHER AMERICAN IN ORDER ESTABLISH ADEQUATE RECORDS AND PUT DAILY OPERATIONS UNDER AMERICAN CONTROL.
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